PRESIDENT : That does not arise.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know from the member whether taxes on land in Nanjinad include the water cess as well?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Yes.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : May I know from the member how far low the price of agricultural produce should go before a ryot is unable to pay tax?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : It has not gone down so far now that the ryots cannot pay.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Then how far low should it go for the ryot not to be able to pay?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : I have not calculated it. I claim notice of the question, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know from the member by what percentage the price of agricultural produce has gone down now?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : The present market rate of paddy is about Rs. 5 per Kottah and there was a time when paddy was selling at about Rs. 8 or Rs. 9 per Kottah. From these figures the per centage of fall can be worked out.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know from the member whether there are any other taluks in which the tax is so high?

PRESIDENT : That does not arise.

PRESIDENT : Question No. 75 stands in the name of Mr. S. Krishna Pillai. The member is not present but the reply will be given and supplementary questions may be asked by any other member.

Construction of a pier at Kochupilammood.

75. ***MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon II*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there was any proposal for the construction of a pier at Kochupilammoodu, Quilon, and if so the probable date on which the proposal was first brought to the notice of Government ;

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the proposal and if so with what result ;

(*c*) whether they have received any representations from Messrs. Harrisons and Crossfield regarding the construction of the pier and if so the nature thereof ;

(*d*) whether they are aware that Messrs. Harisons and Crossfield propose to shift their headquarters to Cochin for want of sea-transport facilities at Quilon ; and

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[Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai]

(*e*) whether they are aware that the shift will necessarily destroy the economic and industrial development of Quilon and whether they propose to adopt any safeguards against any such contingency ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes. In October 1925.

(*b*) The question was considered by Government and a design and also an estimate were prepared amounting to Rs. 5,00,000 for constructing a pier at Quilon. But the question was dropped in view of the large outlay and of the present financial stringency.

(*c*) Yes. The proposal of the Company was to construct a jetty at Quilon, close by the Company's factory, about 300 feet long jutting into the sea, the cost of which is estimated by the Company at Rs. two lakhs.

(*d*) Government have no information.

(*e*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*d*).

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : With regard to part (*d*) may I know whether Government think it necessary to ascertain whether Messrs. Harrisons and Crossfield have any idea of shifting to Cochin in view of the lack of facilities for carrying on their business in Quilon ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Government may ascertain.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : I want to know whether Government think it advisable that they should ascertain. Will they consider that question ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : The question will be considered.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know from the member whether, in view of the fact that the revenue from Alleppey Port has to be divided under the treaty between Cochin, British India and Travancore, Government think it necessary that the shipping facilities at Quilon should be improved ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : The receipts of the Quilon Port have also to be divided.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether Government think it necessary to give greater facilities for shipping because of the existence of many factories there and the consequent help given to labour in Quilon ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : That was considered and the question has been dropped for the present.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether the Government will consider the question of raising a loan for the purpose of executing this work ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : It is a matter for consideration.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member how long it is since this question about the pier and other facilities at Quilon has been agitated?

MR T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): From 1925.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) Will there be any possibility of this pier being constructed as a capital work in view of the fact that there is only Rs. 2 lakhs required for the purpose? Have Government any objection to treat it as a capital work?

PRESIDENT: I do not think these questions are quite fair. The questions are meant to ask for information and are not meant to ask for the future policy of Government.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): When the Government felt convinced that a pier was necessary at Quilon in view of the volume of trade there did they compare the conditions with the conditions obtaining at Alleppey?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Then it was on a comparison of Quilon and Alleppey, that Government came to this conclusion?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government came to the conclusion that a pier was necessary but dropped the idea for want of funds.

MR. A THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know when the estimate was prepared?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): In 1105.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Was it before the economic depression or after it commenced?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It was during the economic depression.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, am I to take it that it was on account of the economic depression that the proposal was dropped or would it have been dropped even otherwise?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It was dropped for want of funds.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Can I take it that lack of funds is the only thing standing in the way of Government constructing a pier at Quilon?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That is the main thing.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): I want to know whether it is the only thing.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): More urgent orks are being attended to.

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MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Am I to take it that if sufficient funds are available Government would take up this work?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the member whether both the import and export income from the Quilon Port should be divided under the Cochin Harbour agreement?

PRESIDENT : That does not arise.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd.*)

PRESIDENT : The House will now proceed to discuss the Ayurveda demand.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 66,595 under Demand VII—Ayurveda Department.

Motion 189.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : I beg to move the following motion :—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,111 for Establishment by Re. 1.

The object of this token motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the desirability of giving more facilities for the ayurvedic system of medicine by increasing the number of ayurvedic dispensaries and also by increasing the grants now given to ayurveda physicians. Sir, yesterday when the Medical department was under consideration, members on this side of the House rose up one after another and pointed out the lack of medical facilities in the rural parts of the country. Government also agreed that proper facilities are not available in the different parts of the country at present and that more allopathic dispensaries cannot be established owing to lack of funds at the present time of depression. Here is an opportunity for the Government to meet the growing demand of the people in the matter of medical aid by establishing ayurveda dispensaries in as many centres as possible and by giving proper and sufficient grants to the ayurveda physicians who are already getting some sort of aid from the Government. There is no doubt that the ayurveda system of treatment is growing day by day highly popular and that it is found to be more efficient and useful. Watever may be the statistics under the allopathic system, there is no doubt that the people of this country have a peculiar affinity for the ayurvedic system of treatment. It is cheaper. In these days of economic depression, people who are suffering from all kinds of ailments, cannot resort to the very costly system of allopathic treatment. People may not be in a position to pay the doctor's bills and to purchase the medicines prescribed by the allopathic doctors. So it will be very convenient and useful if the ayurvedic treatment is made available in the different parts of the country. It is seen from the Administration Report of the Ayurveda Department that there are only 125 grant-in-aid vaidyasalas and these were established about three or four years ago. Since then only two more vaidyasalas have been given grants temporarily. Apart from these 127 vaidyasalas Government have recognised, according to the Report of 1107, 114 ayurveda vaidyans. I

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